

CALLING ALL 3 YEAR OLDS

Is your date of birth between 1st September 2014 and 31st August 2015?

If so, please tell mummy or daddy that you are eligible to start school in the next academic year. If they have not already done so, please ensure that they complete and return an application form for the schools of their choice as soon as possible, available from the schools' offices. They will then automatically receive a Surrey County Council leaflet explaining how to apply for a primary school place. **THE CLOSING DATE IS 15th January 2019.**

FAITH IN FOCUS: TWO REASONS TO HOPE

When God first agreed to be our ancestors' God, by signing the covenant, he said it would be based on two things: "hesed and emeth". These two Hebrew words mean "steadfast love and faithfulness".

Even a fool can see that our ancestors didn't take long to break their side of the agreement. They soon forgot that their "special relationship" with God depended on how they behaved, how they responded to God's favour by the way they treated him and other people.

So you might think that God would have torn up the covenant and declared it null and void. But God remembered his part of the bargain, those two things: steadfast love and faithfulness. God never stopped being loving and faithful, whatever his people got up to. No matter how far people strayed, God remained steadfast and faithful.

This dual characteristic of God, steadfastness and faithfulness, is the reason why Christians trust God. It is the basis of Christian hope.

Our Advent liturgy today invites us to deepen this sense of hope. Don't be miserable, says the prophet Baruch, don't go around sad and distressed because your God is coming to set things right. Advent looks forward to the fulfilment of the promises that God has made to us. And God is steadfast and faithful.

But Christian hope is not merely about the future. It's not like the vague hope that one day we might win the lottery. It affects how we live our lives today, because the seeds of the future are based on my relationships here and now. Hope shines a new light on this reality. It's a dynamic gift that stops us from closing in on ourselves and instead spurs us on to new beginnings, to new challenges and to new life. We live by faith; we continue through charity; we flourish in hope.

The hope we entertain is not simply an optimism that Jesus will return at the end of time, but is a conviction that here and now he can come into our lives as Messiah and can set us free from whatever weighs us down. And come he will if we invite him. For he is steadfast and faithful.

St Anne's Catholic Church, Newsletter

9th December 2018
2nd Sunday of Advent Year C.

(Missal Page 707)
(Prayer of the Church Week 2)



Sunday Masses

6:30pm(Vigil) 8:30am & 10:30am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 10:30-11:30am & on request

Parish Clergy - Salesians of Don Bosco

Fr Michael Hynes

Fr. Peter Pagac

10 Highfield Road, KT16 8BU

Tel: 01932 562375

Web: www.stanneschertsey.org.uk

email: pp@stanneschertsey.org.uk

Deanery website: www.veybridgedeanery.org/

Last Week

Sunday Collection: £549 + Standing Orders. Thank You.

Sunday

Coffee and Tea available in the Savio Centre after the 10.30am Mass

Monday

9.30am Mass

7.30pm Parish Advent Reconciliation Service

Tuesday

9.30am Mass followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament - till 11am

7.00pm Music Practice in Church

7.30pm First Holy Communion Parents Meeting

Wednesday

9.10am Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary

9.30am Mass

Thursday

St. Lucy

9.30am Mass

10 -4pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

10-11am Mothers' Prayers

Friday

St. John of the Cross

9.30am Mass

1.00pm Funeral Mass **Richard Vaughan RIP**

7.30pm SVP Meeting in Parish House

Saturday

10.00am Mass followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Sacrament of Reconciliation

Next Sunday

3rd Sunday of Advent Year C

Advent

The **Advent Reconciliation Service** is on Monday 10th December at 7.30pm. Please make good use of this time of preparation for the feast of Christmas.

Parish Quiz Night

Saturday 15th December at 7:45 pm in the Savio Centre. Pub quiz level questions. Entry £5. Proceeds towards the cost of the church audio system upgrade.

Christmas Evangelisation

Anyone who would like to come and offer Christian gifts and prayer cards to our neighbours in Chertsey please meet outside St. Anne's at 11.45am on Saturday 22nd December.

We will then go outside Sainsbury's to share our faith with others. We will be there for about an hour.

Everyone is very welcome to join in, including children and young adults. If you wish to know more please e-mail **Lucy at vaghanneil@icloud.com** or simply turn up on the day.

3rd Sunday of Advent 16th December 2018

Sunday Mass; Bring a smile to another child's Christmas day. Children please bring a wrapped gift for a child. Please label with the age and gender most suitable for your gift. Children will be asked to bring the gifts to the altar after communion.

Christmas Carol Service

The Salesian Cooperators are hosting their annual Parish Carol Service in the Savio Centre on Monday 17th December at 7.30 pm. **EVERYBODY** is welcome. Light refreshments will be served. As is the tradition a collection will be made and the proceeds sent to the children in an orphanage which is situated in the centre of **BETHLEHEM**.

First Reconciliation and Holy Communion Programme 2019.

St Anne's is following the Diocese's recommended programme 'Growing up Catholic' with sessions starting in January 2019. The programme is family based, as parents are the first leaders in any child's faith, and each candidate will be required to attend 12 weekly facilitated sessions with at least one parent/guardian. You will work with your child to complete the programme and to attend weekly mass (Sat 6-30 p.m vigil Mass., Sun

8-30 a.m., 10-30 a.m. family Mass). This is a new and exciting way to bring Jesus's love into our children's lives, and the reports from other Parishes in the Deanery are very positive.

The programme will run from January to May 2019 weekly, apart from school holidays. There will be a number of different sessions available, with preferences requested at a later date.

On the weekend of the **26th/27th January 2019** all the candidates and families will be required to attend Vigil/Sunday Mass where they will be enrolled in the programme and parishioners will be asked to pray for your family's journey to a deeper loving relationship with Jesus Christ.

To register for this programme, please complete the online form.. All parents who have registered will need to attend an information evening for parents on the **11th December 2018** at 7-30 in the Savio Centre.

If you have any questions in the meantime please contact Theresa Rudley on 07742 649580 (after 6.00 p.m.) . **Use the following link for the online form. You will need to know the date of your child's baptism and place of baptism.**

<https://stanneschertsey.wufoo.com/forms/z19a2s1q0p57nnj/>